



P21386.101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants : Masao AKIMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2661

Appln. No. : 10/034,372

Examiner:

Filed : January 3, 2002

For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR COMMUNICATION CONTROL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following document to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 6,266,160 to SAITO et al., which issued on July 24, 2001.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the patent documents. A copy of the above-noted document is attached and has been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of this document.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent application:

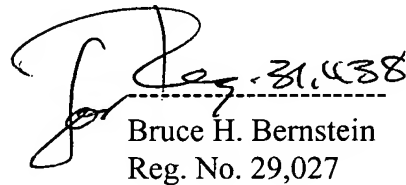
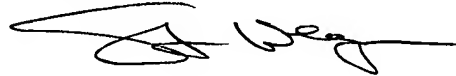
U.S. Patent Applications No. 09/919,953 to AKIMOTO et al. entitled "A Communication Control Apparatus and a Communication Control Method", which was filed on August 2, 2001.

P21380.A01

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of this U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Masao AKIMOTO et al.



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March 27, 2002
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[illegible][illegible]

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.